

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 221115
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 ICA-20 H-02 SCS-06 CA-01
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /052 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S: JCTAYLOR:GFH
APPROVED BY AF/S: GEORGE MOOSE
-----032275 310026Z /62

P R 302244Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS STATE 221115

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SF

SUBJECT: EXPULSION OF AMERICAN JOURNALIST, DAN DROOZ

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR NOON PRESS
BRIEFING AUGUST 30, BUT NOT USED BY SPOKESMAN IN ABSENCE
OF QUESTION. HOWEVER, STATEMENT IN PARA 2 BELOW FURNISHED
CHICAGO SUN TIMES IN RESPONSE TO TELEPHONE CALL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:
QUESTION: WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THE
EXPULSION OF THE AMERICAN JOURNALIST, DAN DROOZ, A
STRINGER FOR THE CHICAGO SUN-TIMES FROM SOUTH AFRICA?

ANSWER: AS YOU ARE PROBABLY AWARE, THE SOUTH AFRICAN
IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES INFORMED DAN DROOZ EARLIER
THIS MONTH THAT HIS RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMITS WOULD
NOT BE RENEWED UPON THEIR EXPIRY AT THE END OF THIS
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MONTH. DROOZ, WHO HAS BEEN IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR MORE
THAN TWO YEARS, ENCOUNTERED A SIMILAR PROBLEM LAST
YEAR, BUT EFFORTS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WERE
SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING HIS PERMITS RENEWED FOR ANOTHER

YEAR. THIS TIME APPEALS TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT
BY DROOZ' EMPLOYER, THE CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, BY CON-

GRESSIONAL OFFICES, AND BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE DECISION WITH RESPECT TO DROOZ HAVE ALL BEEN TO NO AVAIL. WE DEEPLY REGRET THIS MOVE BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO INTERFERE WITH THE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED STATES. WE HOPE THAT DROOZ WILL NOT BE PERMANENTLY BARRED FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN AT SOME FUTURE DATE.

IN THE EVENT OF FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS AS FOLLOWS:

QUESTION: IS DROOZ THE FIRST AMERICAN NEWSMAN TO BE KICKED OUT OF SOUTH AFRICA?

ANSWER: AS FAR AS WE KNOW, DROOZ IS THE FIRST IN MORE THAN TEN YEARS TO HAVE HAD HIS RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMITS WITHDRAWN OR NOT RENEWED.

QUESTION: WHAT ARE DROOZ' PLANS?

ANSWER: WE UNDERSTAND THAT DROOZ, ALONG WITH HIS WIFE AND SON, IS LEAVING SOUTH AFRICA AUGUST 30 AND IS ARRIVING IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE221115
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JCTAYLOR:GFH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780354-1118
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978086/aaaaafcx.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d7f0f662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1726557
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPULSION OF AMERICAN JOURNALIST, DAN DROOZ
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SOPN, SF, US, (DROOZ, DANIEL)
To: PRETORIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d7f0f662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014